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**SENATE
STATE OF COLORADO
DENVER**

Senate Majority Leader

RE: MB Docket No. 15-149

Tom Wheeler
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Wheeler,

I am writing regarding the merger of Charter Communications, Time Warner Cable and Bright House Networks into New Charter. As a member of the Colorado General Assembly, I am committed to promoting policies that will serve in the interest of all Coloradans. I understand the critical role telecommunications plays in the personal and professional lives of our residents, and I believe New Charter would work to improve broadband access for consumers who are too often neglected.

I have worked extensively in the telecommunications space, and served as the primary sponsor for 2014 legislation that updated Colorado's decades-old laws on the issue. We were able to pass five bills that recognized our most pressing concerns, including deploying broadband to rural areas. I believe New Charter would be a significant partner in this effort, and would benefit Coloradans in all parts of the state.

Additionally, I represent Douglas County, Colorado which is located halfway between the state's largest cities, Denver and Colorado Springs. We are especially focused on the economic needs of our state, which includes the need for investments in research and technology. When it comes to technology, New Charter will be a forward looking and leaning company. The company plans to make billions of dollars worth of investments into digitization, expanded networks, and out-of-home WiFi. For its customers, this means faster access to better technology. In Douglas County, Charter is already investing more than \$25 million into a new research and development facility. An investment like this stands to benefit communities far beyond our own because it demonstrates a commitment to continually developing better technologies.

New Charter is also showing a commitment to investing in American jobs and workers. The company will bring customer call center jobs to the United States that had been previously outsourced by Time Warner.

Finally, I am encouraged by New Charter's commitment to philanthropy and giving back to local communities. The company is planning to expand on Charter's signature community service program, "Charter our Community." This program will help restore and rebuild 25,000 unsafe homes over the next five years.

I am eager to work with New Charter and excited by the possibilities and opportunities that will come from this merger. I ask that the FCC grant its approval.

Sincerely,


Mark Scheffel
Senate Majority Leader
Colorado State Senate District 4